and manmade disasters of severe nature, if the States are not in a position to deal with it with the resources available with them. Identification of victims and probing the cause of accidents with a view to avoiding legal complications at the time of payment of compensation is the responsibility of the concerned Ministries/organizations and State Government which is discharged by them in accordance with established procedures and relevant statutory provisions.

Request for PM's intervention for release of a former minister of Karnataka

2133. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the family members of former Karnataka Minister Shri H. Nagappa has sought Prime Minister's intervention to secure his release; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Smt. Parimala Nagappa, wife of Shri H. Nagappa, former Karnataka Minister who was kidnapped by Veerappan met the Prime Minister on 12th November, 2002 and handed over a memorandum requesting for the expenditious release of her husband.

Recruitment of constables in Delhi Police

†2134. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the applications for the posts of constables in Delhi Police were invited a few months back;

(b) whether complaints were received by the Commissioner of Police regarding some officials who took money for recruitment;

(c) if so, whether the matter has been investigated by the Vigilance Department of Police; and

(d) the details of the action taken in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. Delhi Police had received four complaints in connection with the recent recruitment of Constables. All these complaints were assigned to vigilance inquiry which has since been completed in two cases. While in one case the inquiry *prima facie* established the allegations against one police official who, however, passed away before any disciplinary action could be taken against him, it was in the other case revealed that an unidentified person had *prima facie* committed an offence outside the territorial jurisdiction of Delhi Police. It has been decided to refer the latter case to the State Police concerned.

Loss of life and property due to floods and land sliding in Himachal Pradesh

†2135. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the loss of life and property due to floods and land-sliding in Himachal Pradesh during the year 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002; and

(b) whether Government have taken any step to prevent the recurrence of such tragedy, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The year-wise details as reported by the State Government are as under:—

(Rs. In crore)

Year	Loss of Human lives	loss of Cattle	In term of Money
1999-2000	39	700	249.13
2000-2001	153	1730	640.11
2001-2002	45	373	57.44
Total	237	2803	946.68

(b) Due to its geographical location, Himachal Pradesh is prone to natural disasters and suffers losses to life, property and infrastructure

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.